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NATIONAL POLITICS.

Gossip in New York About the Presidential Race.

The Scandal Exploded—What Higginson Thinks About the Stories.

Henry Ward Beecher to take the Stump for Cleveland.

NEW YORK, August 11.—Today the National Democratic Committtee opens the campaign. In the absence of Chairman Barnum, who is in the West, Senator Gorman of Maryland stands at the head of affairs. Letters by the thousand come pouring upon his desk asking for money, campaign speakers and speeches, and presenting innumerable schemes of the wildest nature to carry cities, States and the nation for the Democracy. One enthusiast from Indiana proposed that the national committee manufacture and equip several thousand balloons, each to bear the legend, "Vote for Cleveland and Hendricks," and that these air ships be cut adrift on some moonless night simultaneously from every city and town in the Union. They would infallibly drive superstitious voters into the ranks of the Democracy. Another scheme is that the national committee purchase a few million of miniature dodgers similarly inscribed, and in the form of wafers, that by being pasted upon every available spot between Boston and San Francisco, they shall appeal for the suffrages of a free people. China plates, stamped with portraits of the Democratic candidates, were advocated for distribution among the poor with the same object in view. The secretary assured these gentlemen that the national committee does not deal in crockery and has no aeronauts or bill posters in its employ.

Most of the letters relating to the progressive march of Democratic ideas of course predict victory in November. Mr. Baker, member of the national committee for West Virginia, writes in a compassionate strain concerning the hopeless lost labor of Steve Elkins in that State, and promises to the Democratic standard bearer a majority of 15,000. It is acknowledged, however, that the coming campaign will be one of sensational surprises, which are past finding out by the most astute of political prophets.

The national executive sub-committee holds its first council of war, and the spirit of Andrew Jackson, perhaps, knows what they will do. There has been thus far a conspicuous absence of red fire and flourishing of trumpets, calculated to produce an impression that masterly inactivity prevails in this political centre; but such is not the case in either party, especially so at the Republican headquarters, which are located in the midst of the Fifth avenue aristocracy, near Twenty-eighth street. Between these two political tabernacles there is a great gulf fixed by mutual consent, and the venerable B. F. Jones, who presides at the Republican love feast, betrays no interest whatever regarding affairs at No. 11. Diligent interviewing among the frequenters of the Fifth avenue mansion failed today to establish any serious apprehension of an inimical administration next March. Here, as at No. 11,

Roseate-Hued Reports are Hourly Received

from every State and territory. A letter from Gallipolis, O., pledges to Blaine and Logan a majority of 50,000 in that State. A gentleman in the Palmetto State, who has travelled in both Carolinas, writes: "As regards South Carolina, it can be faithfully said that with a fair and impartial vote, this State is most assuredly Republican, but owing to the nefarious methods used by the minority the vote of the majority is annulled. This has disgusted many former Democrats, who, including myself, have joined the Republican ranks."

Mr. Jones says he has absolute knowledge that never before in the history of his party has its organization been so perfect, notably so in the State of New York. Blaine was the original choice of twenty-five of the thirty-three Republican districts in the State, and before the nomination of Cleveland he considered New York, Albany and Buffalo the only doubtful cities. Buffalo now promised a majority of 5000 votes against its former mayor, and in the metropolis even Butler is credited with sufficient strength to poll more votes than Cleveland. In Massachusetts and Michigan Butler's following is conceded to be very large, composed, however, principally of anti-Clevelandites, who, had the anti-monopolist champion not been in the field, might have been won back to the regular Democratic ticket, but were at all hazards lost to Republicanism. Very ingenious and plausible are the arguments presented pro and con the German vote, which is so potent a factor for victory or defeat.

"Before I turn up my toes to the daisies," exclaimed a veteran Republican, "I expect to see our national and State patronage divided between the Germans and the Irish, and we Americans will be in great luck if we hold the balance of power."

"Where are the German strongholds?"

"In Wisconsin, Ohio, Iowa and New York City. In the City Hall of Cincinnati I have found it well nigh impossible to transact any business without the aid of an interpreter. It was a Democratic legislature elected by German votes that passed the Scott liquor law, and no German who sells or drinks beer will fail to remember this."

It is whispered that money will not be wanting in the approaching conflict. The attaches of the Democratic headquarters speak with envy of the munificent salaries paid the workers for Blaine. No figures, however, are given.

Among the visitors at the Fifth avenue headquarters during the past few days have been C. B. Nettleton of Dayton, O., E. O. Eshlby of Cincinnati, J. M. Schoonmaker of Pittsburg, Hon. M. B. Scott of Wheeling, Richard S. Tuthill and Charles L. Easton of Chicago, Calvin Manning, who was a delegate to the National Convention from Iowa, and General John Jardine, who gave the writer some spirited opinions on the alleged solidity of the South for the Democracy.

"You can see the young Democracy of the South," he said, "idling on the cross roads, chewing tobacco and whittling wood. You see negro and white laborers earning $4 and $5 per day in the cotton field, but

These Young Democrats Will Starve

rather than work with "niggers." All that we want in the South," continued the general, "is a fair count next November and the introduction of Northern capital and protection against foreign competition." The general has had much severe military experience in the South and may be supposed to know whereof he speaks.

John F. Henry relinquished the drug business for ten minutes today in order to discuss anti-monopoly with the United Press representative. He will open the campaign for Butler next Monday with a mass meeting, at 113 Liberty street. He invites all members of the Anti-Monopolist party, all laboring men and Greenbackers or Nationalists to assemble for conference at Saratoga on the 14th. Then at Chicago on August 16 Mr. Henry will call a convention to nominate a vice-president for General Butler. General West of Mississippi stands a fair chance of securing this honor.

"We are," said Mr. Henry, "about to spring some affidavits and unsuspected truths about the other presidential candidates in this campaign that will leave the laboring man and conscientious voter no choice but to support Butler."

"From which party will Butler draw most of his support?"

"In the ratio of two from the Democratic to one from the Republican party."

"What are your unsuspected truths?"

"One of them is a bargain which we shall undertake to prove to have been made between Governor Cleveland and W. C. Kingsley, owner of the Brooklyn Eagle, that if Kingsley could and would pledge to Cleveland the united support of the Brooklyn delegation to the national convention the Governor would engage to sign the Brooklyn reservoir bill, which will doubtless be presented for the executive approval next January, and which four years ago was passed by the Legislature, but vetoed by Governor Cornell as an outrageous steal."

"How do you know this?"

"We have it from private sources, which will be divulged at the proper time. It's only one of our guns. The Anti-Monopolists are rapidly gaining strength and organization, and will cut no mean figure at the polls."

And so speculation runs riots, the wish inspires the words, the laboring man is claimed with equal positiveness by the managers of Blaine, Butler and Cleveland.

MOVEMENTS OF THE ENEMY.

What the Plumed Knight and the Maine Republicans Have Been Doing the Past Week.

AUGUSTA, August 9.—It has been a busy week with the Republican candidate. Leaving Bar Harbor in a rainstorm Monday, he rested at Augusta a day and a half and then went to Portland, where the business men gave him a reception, which was attended by 3000 persons. There were many speeches delivered, including a brief address by the candidate, after which he shook hands with the major portion of those present. Thursday he went to Old Orchard to the soldiers' reunion. A tremendous crowd was present and more speeches were made. An even dozen Republicans, mostly office-holders, acted as a body guard for Mr. Blaine from Portland to Old Orchard. The speeches were made by Governor Robie, ex-Governor Connor, Congressman Reed, Colonel Carr of Colorado, W. F. Lunt, all office-holders. One or two others also spoke. Mr. Blaine also made a speech. Friday he came on the muster grounds at Augusta a short time to see the citizen soldiers, but he did not stay long. He had more important work in hand, in the shape of a consultation with his political allies, Captain Boutelle and Postmaster Manly, with whom he was closeted a long time. Later he went to Bar Harbor to rest. He has promised to be at Lake Maranacook Tuesday, sure, when the Republicans hold a mass meeting, but he is not expected to speak.

This meeting will be the formal opening of the campaign in Maine. At its close Mr. Blaine returns to Bar Harbor. His future movements are unknown, except that he is expected to attend the meeting at Strong, August 19, when the thirtieth anniversary of the Republican party will be celebrated.

THE SCANDAL EXPLODED.

Cleveland Not Guilty of Seduction or Abduction.

BUFFALO, August 10.—In a long editorial leader tomorrow morning, the Courier will offer a refutation of the charges against Governor Cleveland. The following are extracts from the article:

"When the scandal against Governor Cleveland was first published, the Courier did not notice it. The newspaper in which it appeared was known to be both sensational and venal, and the reputation of the man behind the newspaper who was found to be primarily responsible for the scandal was by no means as sacred as his calling. So it seemed good to trust to the character of Mr. Cleveland as a shield against the arrows of slander. It has been difficult to endure the constant challenges to speak in his defence. To the Courier many of these challenges have been specially directed, and we have determined to answer them finally, not so much because we think them worthy of notice as because silence may be misconstrued. The charges were cunningly concocted and the misrepresentation so mingled with circumstantial detail that no mere denial would suffice. Investigation was necessary to disentangle the slender thread of truth from the web of slander, and it is on the basis of such an investigation that we speak. The Buffalo Telegraph made only one accusation in detail wherein names, dates and places were given. It has been possible to trace this case and refute the charges based upon it. They may be pronounced false in all essential particulars. The slanderous story accuses Governor Cleveland of seduction, abduction and cruelty; and evidence can be produced to disprove each one of these charges. There was no seduction; the woman in the case was not a young girl, but a widow. There was no abduction; the separation of the mother and her child by the removal of the former to an inebriate asylum, was the act of the authorities of the Buffalo Orphan Asylum, taken mainly in the interest of the latter. The infant had been ntrusted to the care of the Orphan Asylum, and then withdrawn by the mother, and the authorities interfered and took possession of the child again only when informed that it was in danger. There was no such agreement in the settlement of the case as has been reported. Every other accusation made in the Telegraph lacks definiteness. It is said Governor Cleveland came home from Albany one Saturday night, went to a saloon with three friends, ordered liquors sent out for four women and passed the succeeding Sunday in a drunken orgie with these companions. The editor of the paper has refused to give the date of the event, the name of the saloon-keeper and the names of the alleged companions of the Governor; and as he is the only one who ever heard of the affair no clew can be obtained for its investigation. The same may be said about the story that two reputable citizens once found Governor Cleveland fighting with another lawyer in a saloon for the possession of a woman. The Governor's friends can only recall one incident that might have served as the foundation for the tale; it occurred at a dinner some twenty years ago, when he and a young companion were skylarking in consequence of a practical joke played by another of the company; but there was no woman present at all and the scuffling was a mere piece of pleasantry."

With regard to another letter written by the Rev. George H. Ball, charging that the Governor and another lawyer visited their club house on Grand Island, "a place of drunkenness and lust, and the three were beastly drunk on their return to the city," and that one of them, Oscar Folsom, fell from the carriage and broke his neck, the Courier's article says: "In August, 1875, Oscar Folsom of this city, while out driving with Warren F. Miller, was thrown from his buggy and killed. Mr. Cleveland had not been with either Mr. Folsom or Mr. Miller that day, but was in his room in company with George S. Wardwell when the news came of the death of their friend. All these gentlemen were members of the Beaver Island Club, but Messrs. Folsom and Miller had not visited the club on the day in question. . . .

"The Beaver Island Club was not a place of 'drunkenness and lust,' but a respectable river club, organized on the same plan as the present Oakfield and Falconwood clubs, where the members habitually took their wives and families."

Then follows a list of the names of the very prominent citizens connected with the club. The article concludes by saying:

"The citizens of Buffalo know these so-called facts of the Rev. George H. Ball's to be wicked, malicious lies; if they did not, the publication of this list of names would be a sufficient refutation. Any refusal of these gentlemen to deny the imputation that they were in the habit of taking their wives and families to a place of "drunkenness and lust" is quite unnecessary, and inasmuch as none of them are candidates for public office such refusal will not be taken as an admission of the alleged fact.

COLONEL HIGGINSON'S VIEWS.

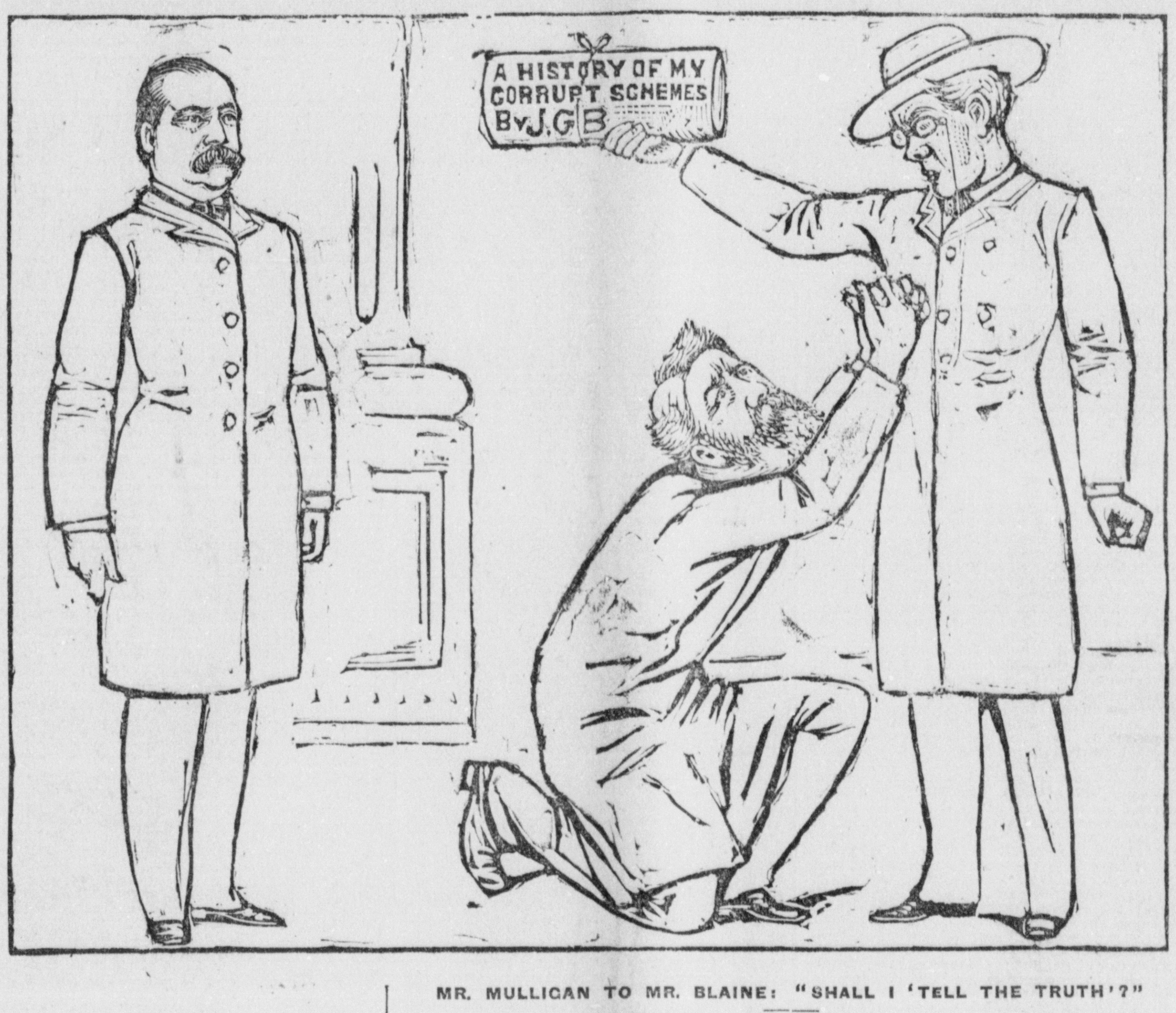
Reasons Why the Scandal Concerning Cleveland Should Not Affect His Political Standing.

The following is from a letter in the Woman's Journal by Colonel T. W. Higginson:

It does not need much experience of human life to prove that the most damaging of all charges to make, against man or woman, are those in respect to the virtue of chastity. This proceeds not only from the seriousness of the matter, but from the fact that such charges, once made, are sure to be remembered and are almost impossible to disprove. Even legal investigation—as has been shown in very conspicuous cases—is powerless, and, however prolonged, is apt to leave the matter just where it was before. Again, there is no charge so capable of exaggeration. Let a man or woman once swerve from virtue and no life of stainless propriety thenceforward can convince the harsh critic that all is well. In one respect this is creditable to the community, for it shows the high value placed on this virtue. In another respect it is discreditable, for it shows a love of gossip, and of prurient gossip. In the late statements about Governor Cleveland there is mingled a worse element than these; the element of political antagonism. Does any one suppose that the Boston Journal would have sent a special reporter to interview people in Maine in regard to the personal offences of the Republican nominee? Does any one attribute a lofty moral purpose to the editor of the obscure little sheet in Buffalo that has suddenly leaped into national fame as the savior of the Republican party? Of course truth is truth, from whatever source it comes, but calm and judicial truth in a difficult question of private action rarely comes from the heat of politics. Political debate can deal, though imperfectly, with public acts, because these are matters of public record, accessible to all. But facts of private life, whose evidence lies mainly in rumor and gossip, are rarely to be found justly or even decently handled by political editors or committees.

Mr. Cleveland is, in the opinion of many reformers, including myself, a man of such admirable public career as to leave no comparison in this respect between him and his leading rival. Were men to be supported in public life for public services alone—as was the case in what we call "the better days of the republic"—the case would be clear. Franklin, Jefferson, Hamilton were thus supported, in spite of just censure on the very point now concerned; Washington himself did not escape aspersion, which history has not sustained. But I am ready to admit that in this respect times have changed for the better. A man habitually and openly profligate could not now, probably, be elected to high office. To carry the claim farther and say that any man who has once in his life, even in early youth, sinned against chastity, should be forever after excluded from public service would be urging the scruple, in my opinion, much too far. If this view is correct, the question in regard to Mr. Cleveland is greatly simplified. All the mass of indecent trash that is now being circulated by political committees really bears upon a single transaction—enormously exaggerated, as far as I can find out, but still highly culpable—which took place some fifteen years ago, when he was thirty-three years old. Deeply as I deplore that transaction, I must distinctly decline to abandon, for that reason only, a candidate whose public record is so admirable. It must be proved to my satisfaction, not merely that he committed one such culpable act at that time, but that he habitually commits such acts today. Of this, I am bound to say, I have not yet seen one ray of positive evidence. Against it there stands the manly telegraphic message sent by him to his friend in respect to these charges, "Tell the truth"; an answer which will be quoted and remembered, if I mistake not, when falsehoods and exaggerations are forgotten.

No evidence has been brought forward—and it is a wonder that some alleged proof, real or fictitious, has not been forthcoming—to show that Governor Cleveland's present habits are any thing but correct, in private as in public. There are clergymen in Buffalo who think ill of him and others who are as strongly in his favor. Experience teaches that even clergymen are not infallible. I know some very worthy men in that profession who regard every one who drinks lager beer as a drunkard; and who are unable to conceive of a single lapse from virtue as not staining a person forever. But there lies before me a private letter from a Buffalo clergyman, who says to me after quoting the opinions of men of high character: "My own personal acquaintance with Mr. Cleveland confirms the statements above made, and I am sure that the sin of his early manhood is the only one, and that his professional and private life since has been and is correct. His fellow-citizens in Buffalo so estimate him, for he is honored and respected by all classes." Who shall decide when doctors—of divinity—disagree? Legal investigation is impossible, and would, as experience has shown, be worthless if applied. Public character is a thing of which all can judge, and which is often judged more correctly at a distance than near home. But the test of private character is in the concurrence of opinion among a man's own neighbors—the unconscious verdict of the community where he dwells. What the verdict is in regard to Grover Cleveland the citizens of Buffalo, without regard to party, have shown.



MR. MULLIGAN TO MR. BLAINE: "SHALL I 'TELL THE TRUTH'?"

"TELL THE TRUTH"

was the prompt and fearless telegram of GROVER CLEVELAND in response to inquiries from friends as to what they should say in reply to the assaults upon him. His letters are not a nightmare to him. "Tell the truth" is all he had to say.

When Mr. Blaine found that his acts were to be brought out by Mr. Mulligan in Washington his attitude was somewbat different. We quote the Associated Press despatch from Washington of June 1, 1876:

"James Mulligan said he wanted to make a statement before continuing his examination. He said that when he arrived here a note came down from Mr. Blaine requesting the witness and Mr. Fisher to call at his house; witness declined to go, but Mr. Fisher went. After witness testified yesterday, Mr. Blaine called upon him and asked him about some letters which were in his possession, and wanted witness to give them up to him, but witness declined to do so. Witness said Mr. Blaine almost got down on his knees and pleaded for the letters, saying they would ruin him for life, and when witness further declined Mr. Blaine asked him to think of his wife and six children. He besought witness and almost contemplated suicide. He offered to get him a consulship in return for the letters. Witness allowed Mr. Blaine to take them under a pledge that he would return them. He looked them over and did return them. This was in the presence of Mr. Fisher and Mr. Atkins. Witness then retired to his room and Blaine followed him and wanted to look at the letters again. Witness allowed Mr. Blaine to take them, and Mr. Blaine refused to return them and still retains them. There were about eighteen letters.

BEECHER MEANING BUSINESS.

Having Had the Charges Against Governor Cleveland Investigated He Is Determined to Take the Stump in His Support.

PEEKSKILL-ON-THE-HUDSON, August 6.—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher passed the entire morning listening to a statement by General Horatio C. King of Brooklyn. General King has just returned from Buffalo, where he has been making for Mr. Beecher a careful investigation of the stories in circulation about Governor Cleveland. The result is entirely favorable to the Governor, and Mr. Beecher is delighted.

Mr. Beecher said this morning: "I have been undergoing a judicial process; I have been down in the mud, but now the clouds are breaking away, and I am beginning to understand that these stories about Cleveland are untrue and a vile slander. I expect to brand the men who promulgated them as blackmailers and liars, for I now expect the Governor acted the part of a man in this affair. I shall take the stump for him, and tell the people of this country that they must elect him president. I shall enter this campaign with an enthusiasm second only to that with which I entered the war. Take my word for it, this scandal, if false, will make Governor Cleveland president." Mr. Beecher said he felt like another man, and that a great weight had been lifted off his mind.

General King learned that all the libels against the Governor had for their foundation the story published with substantial accuracy in the New York Post yesterday. No one can be found to father the calumnies except Elder Ball, the pastor of a small Baptist Church and formerly an employe in the custom house. Ball was a political striker in 1881. He demanded and received $50 for alleged services to the Independent Republicans. In a recent canvass, he begged $250 from Senator Titus, and a like sum from H. R. Jones, county treasurer, both Democrats. A committee of three Independent Republicans, composed of a leading clergyman, a lawyer and a merchant, on Monday demanded of the editor of the Buffalo Telegraph the proofs which he said he was ready to produce. He was greatly alarmed, and on the plea of sickness asked for delay. The committee will make a thorough investigation and give the facts to the public as soon as the Telegraph gives its reply.

The Dr. Mitchell who figures with Ball as a supporter of his charges is from Washington, and is an intimate friend of Mr. Blaine. He has publicly admitted that he knows nothing except by hearsay, and that his informant is Ball.

F. D. Locke, partner of Sherman S. Rogers, and an intimate friend of Mitchell's, has withdrawn from his church and other leading members have also withdrawn until he publicly retracts his statement. There is much excitement in Buffalo and the most prominent people denounce the authors of the slanders. The report of the committee may be expected in a day or two.

HENDRICKS INTERVIEWED.

Cleveland Just the Man to Win the Victory—He Places No Credence in the Reported Disaffection of Irish-Americans.

SARATOGA, N. Y., August 7.—THE GLOBE representative accompanied Thomas A. Hendricks last evening as far as Albany on his way to New York, and enjoyed a pleasant chat with the candidate for vice-president. Mr. Hendricks expressed himself as gratified with the prospects of the campaign. He firmly believes in the certain victory for the Democratic ticket.

Concerning Governor Cleveland, he said: "I am much pleased with him. I have observed his course with interest from the day he took his seat as governor. He has not disappointed my expectations. When I met him last week and heard him talk I learned to esteem him even more highly. He is growing, and his strength will increase every day of the canvass."

Regarding the alleged defection of Irish votes, he said: "I do not believe it will occur to any extent in the East, and I know it will not in the West. I have a large acquaintance with the Irish throughout Indiana, and they know that my sympathies have always been toward ameliorating their condition in Ireland and helping them towards comfort here. From my mother's mother I inherited Celtic blood, and I naturally feel an interest for the race."

The Governor will go from New York to Block Island, and may then possibly return here for a short stay. He said he would go home about September 1, and begin an active participation in the canvass in his own State. When THE GLOBE correspondent left him, he said: "Rest assured, young man, that if it comes to a pinch, Governor Cleveland has backbone enough not to stand by and see himself counted out."

CLEVELAND'S CALLERS

Bring Encouraging Reports, and Find His Letter of Acceptance Almost Ready.

ALBANY, August 6.—This has been an important day in political work for the Democratic party. A company of notable leaders arrived for consultation with Governor Cleveland and Daniel Manning, for organizing and pushing on the Democratic strength at leading points.

General Franz Sigel was the first to arrive. He reached the executive chamber at 8.30 this morning, and found Governor Cleveland already at work. A conference of an hour and a half occurred. The news the general gives of the German movement toward Cleveland confirms the reports before prevailing. He said to me: "I can tell the whole case in a word. Heretofore 70 per cent. of the Germans have voted Republican. This year, in my judgment, over 85 per cent. will vote Democratic. They are strongest in the States which the Republicans must have, and which the Democrats do not need to carry. The States the Germans will carry for Clevelaad will make the Democratic victory national and overwhelming in its magnitude.

Succeeding General Sigel, General Cluny was closeted with the Governor. The two had come down from Saratoga and will shortly leave for San Francisco. They declare that California will go for Cleveland by 10,000 majority. General Cluny has offered to bet $10,000, $5000 or $1000 on California, but has found no Republican takers.

William C. Kingsley the well-known Democratic leader of Brooklyn, afterward had an extended interview with the Governor and Mr. Manning. He predicts from Brooklyn the largest majority for Cleveland that any presidential candidate every received there.

Early tonight Carter Harrison arrived from Chicago. He is reasonably confident of carrying Illinois, and declares he has the evidence to justify the confidence. He reports a wholesale German secession from Blaine, and says the Democrats were never so numerous or determined. From 8.30 to midnight tonight Harrison was in conference with Governor Cleveland.

The Governor said to me tonight: "I have not yet begun my letter of acceptance, but I shall not be long about it when I begin. You may be sure it will be short. I shall try to leave no important subject untouched." It is ascertained that the reform of the Federal administration will be the main topic. All but the mere writing of the letter has been attended to. The Governor does not sit down to write until he has completely made up his mind what he will say and in what form he will put it. Then he composes rapidly.

The impression has been that Governor Cleveland is not in good health because he will go to the Adirondacks with his physician. There is no foundation for that impression. Dr. S. B. Ward, the Governor's medical attendant, is also his intimate friend. He has started to the Adirondacks the first week in August for the last five years, and the Governor has done the same thing at the same time for twice that period. The Governor's health is excellent.

FOR AMERICANS ONLY.

A New Party that Proposes to Draw the Line on Foreigners.

The National Executive Committee of the American Political Alliance was in session in this city Tuesday and prepared an address. The alliance will open headquarters at the Tremont House, August 15, and proposes putting a full electoral ticket in the field, to be announced September 5. W. L. Ellsworth is chairman of the committee.

The national committee is now in session to make a choice of candidates. It is thought that either ex-Governor Clark of New York or ex-Governor Pollock of Pennsylvania will receive the nomination for president, while some Democrat will be selected to fill second place. The committee claims that the new party will poll 77,000 votes in the State of New York alone. The opening sentences of an address, which was issued yesterday, read as follows:

1876—AMERICAN POLITICAL ALLIANCE.—1884.

"Sound the Alarm." Ring the bells on every village green in the land. Down with the attempt to elect a president of the United States by aid of a concentrated foreign, or naturalized, vote. "Americans to rule America." It becomes necessary, when foreigners organize political bodies composed of naturalized voters purely, for the American born voters to place an American ticket for the American voters without distinction of party to vote on, for president and vice-president of the United States at the coming election.

Another address will be issued August 15. It is proposed to organize clubs, and start at once upon a vigorous campaign.

DEMOCRATS IN COUNCIL.

Important Conference at Headquarters—Letter on the Situation from Colonel Jonas H. French.

Prominent Democrats from various parts of the State met at the headquarters of the State Central Committee Thursday to consult as to the best manner of conducting the campaign.

General Butler's letter to the Sun, declaring it to be his intention to run, was discussed, and the sentiment of the assembled chieftains was that they were glad he had finally defined his position. The general estimate of his vote in this State did not exceed 15,000, and that the Independent vote for Cleveland would more than make up the deficiency was believed by the cheerful Democracy. At 11.30 the conference closed their door and began to talk on the condition of the party. Congressman Collins was in the chair, and Colonel Coveney acted as secretary.

Measures were taken looking to the distribution of campaign documents. Reports received from representatives of different parts of the State indicated a strong feeling for earnest work in all sections.

The following letter from Colonel Jonas H. French was read:

BOSTON, August 7 1884.

DEAR SIR—Until late last evening I intended to be present at the meeting today for consultation, and also to say a word at the ratification meeting Friday night, but an important matter in New York calls me there this evening. The morning papers announce that General Butler is to run as a candidate of various organizations for the presidency.

I regret his decision, and part political companionship with him with sorrow.

But I am a Democrat, and because I am I propose to support the candidates of the party. They were fairly and honorably nominated, represent broad and practical Democracy, and I see no reason why they should not receive the unqualified indorsement, not only of every Democrat, but of all who seek reform and honest government.

One thing is certain: One of the two prominent candidates will be elected. A third only adds confusion to the canvass. Does not Grover Cleveland represent, better than Blaine, the ideas of those of us who desired General Butler's nomination? I believe he does. So far as a pressing business will allow me to respond, command my services. Very truly, yours,

JONAS H. FRENCH.

Hon. P. A. Collins, chairman.

ST. ALBANS, VT., REPUBLICANS.

Disaffected Ones Propose to Put an Independent Ticket in the Field.

ST. ALBANS, Vt., August 9.—John Le Burroughs of Kalamozoo, Mich., addressed the Republicans of this place last evening. He was obliged to go into Opera Hall on account of difficulty with his throat. He dwelt largely of "free ballot and fair count;" said nothing about Cleveland, but said Hendricks' sympathies were wholly with the South. He said if Vermont Democrats were representative Democrats he would be willing to have the administration change. The enthusiasm was not very strong. Disaffected Republicans in this county have called a mass meeting to put in nomination a ticket to beat the straight Republican ticket. The Democrats of the county have a strong ticket, and there is a good prospect ahead.

Candidate St. John.

NEW LONDON, August 9.—The managers of the State Baptist seaside resort at Niantic are arranging for a grand temperance mass meeting in the tabernacle at an early date in the month. There will be delegates from all the temperance societies in the State, and a great audience is expected. The chief attraction will be a speech from St. John, the Prohibition candidate for president.

For richness of biographical material, St. John of the Prohibitionists leads all the rest. He ran away from his father in Indiana at the age of 12; was a husband at 19, and a widower at 20; became one of the rough-and-tumble pioneers of the California gold diggings, and once ran bare-footed over ice and frozen ground for two days, with an anxious party of Indians after him; started for South America, and was wrecked without clothes or coin among the Sandwich Islands; turned up as a country lawyer in Illinois; served in the army through the war, and got the rank of colonel, and finally "struck it" in the rum politics of Kansas.

Germans Organizing Against the Republicans.

CHICAGO, August 9.—A well-attended meeting of prominent Germans from the interior of the State took place this afternoon in compliance with a call issued by General Herman Lieb. Lieb stated that the purpose of the meeting was not to form a German faction, but to unite as American citizens of liberal views. Ex-Governor Koerner was elected chairman. He said the identification of the Republican party with the prohibition movement was a particular reason why the Germans should take a decisive standpoint against that party. Representatives of various congressional districts gave conditions of popular feeling regarding the result of the coming elections. The general tenor of these remarks was to the effect that the entire German vote would be Democratic. Resolutions were adopted which conclude: "It is a question of vital importance for German-Americans to defeat the Republican prohibition ticket and vote with the Democrats, in whose principles we have the best guarantee for personal liberty and rights."

A BIG STEAL.

A Lax Republican Administration Allows Itself to be Cheated for Ten Years in the Quality of the Post Office Envelopes.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—Under the law the Post Office Department contracts for furnishing official envelopes to all its bureaus, $140,000 being appropriated for that purpose. That contract is now held by the successors of the Plympton Manufacturing Company of Hartford, Conn. Today the committee, looking into the subject, found a number of envelopes varying from 50 to 100 per cent. below sample, and will report the facts to the postmaster-general on his return from Deer Park Monday. It is said that envelopes of inferior quality have been furnished to the department for ten years past. Department officials say that it was the duty of Inspector Sperry at Hartford, who is especially detailed for that purpose, to have seen that all matter furnished was up to sample grade. It is understood that the postmaster-general will institute suit for the difference in price between envelopes like the sample and the material furnished, and perhaps annul existing contracts. The contractors are now here, and today, after testing the envelopes, acknowledged that they did not come up to sample. This inferior quality has been furnished for a period extending back ten years, and at the lowest estimate the government has during this period paid $200,000 too much for its envelopes. Further investigations, as to the quality of stamped envelopes and writing paper, are now in progress.

Death from Homesickness.

HACKENSACK, N. J., August 5.—Mrs. Barbara Cairna, her husband, and two sisters arrived in Hackensack from Scotland three weeks since, to visit a brother, John Chapman. Mrs. Cairna was very despondent from the time the party landed in New York City, often expressing a desire to be home again. Arrangements were made for an immediate return, but she grew worse rapidly and died Sunday. The physician says that death was caused by homesickness.

WAITING FOR SWEET REVENGE.

A Young Polander Keeping a Faithful Watch Upon His Mother's Murderer.

[Mount Carmel News.]

Fourteen years ago Joseph Comoski, Sr., died in Poland, leaving a snug estate and Joseph Comoski, Jr., his sister and the two children's mother. The hours of mourning had scarcely passed when Michael Shamolick turned his eyes upon Miss Comoski. He wooed and won. To possess the estate now became his unholy ambition. The widow stood in the way of the successful accomplishment of his foul object. He meditated and finally determined to resort to foul means for the removal of his obstacle.

One morning the little Polish village was excited as it had never been before. Some one during the hour of sleep had foully murdered Widow Comoski. Suspicion at once attached itself to the son-in-law. Pursued by the law and a guilty conscience, he fled from the land of his birth, crossed the ocean and found employment in the mines of Pennsylvania. Here he considered himself secure.

Joseph Comoski, Jr., though but a boy of 14 years, swore solemnly to avenge his mother's death, even should the murderer seek the most distant spot on earth. In pursuance of this resolve he bade a tender adieu to his betrayed sister and sailed for America. Fortune favored the brave youth and after a time he discovered his mother's murderer in Pottsville. He at once made known his discovery to the Polish consul at New York and acquainted him with all the facts in the case. The sympathy of the official was enlisted in the boy's behalf and he promised his assistance. The boy kept a watch over the murderer's doings, tracing him from town to town. Finally the fugitive was apprehended while engaged in the commission of a robbery and sent to the Philadelphia penitentiary for a term of three years. The consul, in the meantime, had written to Poland and learned of the correctness of the boy's story. He then secured the extradition papers, and the boy came to Mount Carmel, where so many of his countrymen reside, to work while the three years were passing. He found employment at the Pennsylvania colliery as an ash-wheeler. By his industrious habits he gained the good will of his bosses, and was finally promoted foreman, a position which he now satisfactorily fills.

The young man is scrupulously careful in saving his earnings, and it was a knowledge of this, followed by an inquiry from an official, that led to a recital of the above facts. The young man has succeeded in keeping his secret from his countrymen and this account will probably be to them startling. He has collected a snug little sum by his economical habits, and, with fire in his eye, one day this week remarked to our informant that upon the completion of the murderer's term of imprisonment the extradition papers would meet him in the face and the villain should swing from the Polish gallows if it took every cent he earned at the Pennsylvania colliery.

SHERMAN PLATT'S MALADY.

A Man Who Took Naps Six Months in Duration—He Kills Himself.

BRIDGEPORT, August 5.—For several years a strange case has attracted much interest among the physicians of the county. In the southwest part of the town of Newtown in a locality known in the neighboring places as Dodgintown, live a family by the name of Platt. One of the sons, Sherman W. Platt, had for some time been afflicted with a curious malady. He would remain asleep for several months at a time and while the comatose fit lasted it was impossible to rouse him from his lethargy. Several medical men examined Mr. Platt, but were unable to decide the exact nature of his disease. About a year ago he was taken to the Middletown asylum, where he remained until July 28, when he returned home. He remained at his father's house for only a short time, and then disappeared without giving any clew to his destination. On Sunday search was instituted by Platt's relatives, and as George Sherman was passing Sanford's pond he discovered Platt's body, devoid of clothing, standing up in the water. Dr. Wakeman, deputy coroner, was notified, and as no marks of violence were found upon his person he came to the conclusion that the deceased lost his life while bathing. As a strange person was seen near the pond on Tuesday it is supposed that Platt's body was in the water from that day till the time of its discovery on Saturday. It is generally regarded as a case of suicide, as no motive can be assigned for any one's murdering him. Whenever the somnolent fit came upon Platt he took to his bed and sometimes did not come out of his slumbers for six months. At times he would rise, move about for a few minutes and then return to his bed, but his actions then were those of a man governed entirely by instinct. He would go to the larder, help himself to whatever eatables came in his way and then go back to his slumbers. During these intervals he vouchsafed no word to any one, and would answer no questions. Various experiments were made, but no decisive results were reached. Drugs and electric processes seemed alike useless. At first the family freely admitted visitors, but of late had refused to allow curious persons to examine the strangely-afflicted man. Platt's bodily health continued to be fair in spite of his prolonged slumbers. The circumstances of his death are very strange, and no sufficient explanation has been offered for the nudity of the body as found, and the total disappearance of the clothes he wore when he left his home on Monday last. An investigation will probably be made by the Newtown authorities.

STOWED HIMSELF AWAY.

How Willie Smith Came to America to See "Lots o' Barges an' People."

A bright little boy of 7 years, giving the name of Willie Smith, was found crying very pitifully in the New York & New England depot last evening by a patrolman of Division 4. On taking him to the station, he said his folks lived on York road, London, and that he had been induced to run away by a boy named John Stevens, 14 years old. The father of the Stevens boy lives on City Road and drives a barge. Willie says he was playing near his house about three weeks ago when the Stevens boy showed him some money that he had stolen from his father and asked him to go to America, representing to him that he would see barges and people unlike those in London. Willie, supposing America was but a few miles away, and that he would be home before night, agreed to go with him. They boarded the train and went to Liverpool. From there they went in a tender to the steamer Circassian that was lying in the stream and ready to sail for Montreal. The Smith boy enjoyed the sail till the sun began to set, when he began to realize that he was going across the ocean. He was found crying on the upper deck by one of the seamen. On ascertaining the cause, he was placed in charge of the steward, who supplied him with bed and food.

When the steamer arrived at Montreal the Stevens boy ran away from him and he says he has been looking for him ever since. He claims not to have eaten any food since he came here, but his looks belie him. He passed the nights looking for the Stevens boy and sleeping on doorsteps. He was taken to the Chardon Street Home, where he will remain until his parents are communicated with.

REMARKABLE ICE FIELDS.

Norwegian Bark Achilles Reports a Ninety Days' Voyage Across the Atlantic.

QUEBEC, August 9.—The Norwegian bark Achilles, which arrived here yesterday from London, had a tedious passage of ninety days, having left the Thames on May 7. The vessel had been given up as lost. It seems she got too far north and encountered vast and impregnable ice fields. Captain Rhetz says he met ice on June 7, between longitude 50° and 60°, and that a whole month was consumed in sailing along its edges looking for the western route. Three unsuccessful attempts were made to force a passage. All this time the weather was very cold, the mercury being continually below the freezing point, with west winds and fog. Finally the ship was put on the southern course, and on the 7th of July, long. 42° 45', lat. 26°, she got clear of the ice. There was a large American ship coming out of the ice just as the Achilles got clear. On the banks the captain saw a fleet of about 200 fishermen, who reported having had exceptionally fine weather and good fishing. The most extraordinary circumstance connected with this voyage is that, from the day of leaving the Thames to last Monday, not a breath of east wind was encountered.

Gives Her Hand as a Reward for Her Life.

ATLANTIC CITY, August 8.—Miss Dollie Patterson, a pretty bather, who was saved from drowning in the surf two weeks ago, was married at Balton cottage Thursday night to William F. Callahan, the coast guardsman who saved her life. The ceremony was witnessed by the family and friends of the bride and groom, and was a subject of romantic interest to hundreds of those who witnessed the narrow escape of the young girl and her brave rescue. Callahan is on duty at Atlantic City, and could not obtain leave of absence, so the honeymoon of the young couple will be spent within sight of the surf whose perils brought them together.

Cyclone in Wasco, Oregon.

PORTLAND, Or., August 7.—The town of Wasco, in eastern Oregon, was visited yesterday by a heavy and destructive cyclone. The storm came from the southeast. The wind was accompanied by a perfect deluge, but the rain storm lasted only a few minutes. The Methodist church and a large mill were both levelled to the ground. A number of other buildings were unroofed and otherwise damaged. A prominent citizen, A. M. Barnett, was fatally injured by getting caught under a falling building.

FROM THE OTHER SIDE.

Liberal Speakers Denounce the House of Lords.

The Town of Kelung Bombarded and Captured by the French.

Terrific and Destructive Tempests in Europe.

BIRMINGHAM, August 5.—In connection with the great reform demonstration here yesterday an enthusiastic meeting was held in the evening at Bingley Hall. Fully 20,000 people were present. Speeches were made by the Right Hon. John Bright and the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, president of the Board of Trade. Mr. Bright said the Tory majority in the House of Lords was actuated by the same bitter hatred of the liberals as in 1832. "Who were the peers?" he asked. "They were the spawn of the blunders, the wars and the corruption of the dark ages of our history. They had entered the temple of honor, not through the temple of merit, but through the sepulchres of their ancestors. They were no better than their fathers; some of them were worse, for their privileges had produced ignorance and arrogance."

The reform of the House of Lords, Mr. Bright declared, was urgent and inevitable. The creation of new peers to pass the franchise bill would only get rid of the present difficulty. What was wanted was a limitation of the veto power of the House of Lords. Should the people submit or should they curb the nobles as their fathers had curbed the kings of England?

Mr. Bright then proceeded to explain the manner in which he would like to see the power of the House of Lords restricted. He would allow the peers to retain their present power during the first session that a bill should be presented to them, but he would absolutely preclude them from vetoing the franchise bill or any bill a second time. Many persons, no doubt, would think him too lenient to the peers, but he preferred remedies which, while effectual, would cause the least disturbance to existing institutions.

Mr. Chamberlain in a lengthy speech said the divine right of kings was dangerous; the divine right of peers is a ridiculous figment. If the lords are obstinate, the speaker said, the agitation will continue to the bitter end. Mr. Chamberlain looks forward with eager hope to the result. England, he said, has been chosen as the home of a self-governed people, who will never be subservient to the insolent pretensions of the hereditary class.

The meeting displayed its approval of the sentiments expressed by the speakers by frequent and enthusiastic applause. A resolution was adopted denouncing the action of the House of Lords in rejecting the reform of the franchise.

The Town of Kelung in the Hands of the French.

LONDON, August 9.—A Shanghai despatch states that the French squadron under Admiral Lespes, consisting of five vessels, has bombarded and captured the town of Kelung, on the island of Formosa.

The occupation of Kelung by the French is officially confirmed from Paris.

LONDON, August 11.—The Times' Foochow correspondent telegraphs that the French Admiral Lespes did not bombard nor occupy Kelung, but simply destroyed the forts and then retired.

Terrific and Destructive Tempests in England.

LONDON, August 10.—Severe thunder storms prevailed throughout England yesterday. At Accrington hail-stones fell three inches long and an inch thick. Houses, churches and mills within an area of two miles were wrecked as by a riot. Church windows were riddled as if volleys of shot had been fired into them. Hundreds of gardens were destroyed. The water in the river Irwell rose five feet within twenty minutes. The lightning was terrific. Two persons were struck dead at Burnley, two at Barnsley, one at Darwen and one at Nottingham.

Witnesses in the Maantrasno Murder Case Confess.

DUBLIN, August 11.—Thomas Casey, the approver in the Maantrasna murder case, who recently made a confession to the effect that he was compelled by Mr. Bolton, solicitor for the crown, to swear against Myles Joyce and others charged with that crime, and declaring that the prisoners were innocent, has reported his confession to a reporter of the Freeman's Journal, which publishes it in full this morning, together with an interview with Phil Brin, another of the crown's witnesses in that case, in which Phil Brin admits that the most important part of his testimony was false; that he was coached as to what he should say on the witness stand, and was well paid for the part he took in the prosecution.

Great Storm About Pesth.

PESTH, August 11.—Later reports regarding the great storm of yesterday show that it was more severe than at first anticipated. In addition to the damage reported in the previous despatch comes the intelligence that the villages of Zebegony and Oroszy have been partially destroyed by the storm, and that twenty persons were drowned by the rapidly rising waters of the Danube. A number of barns, out-houses, cattle, horses and other live stock were swept away.

Expedition to the Nile Depots.

CAIRO, August 11.—Vigorous preparations are being made for an expedition to the Nile depots. Material is forming at Assouan, Wady Halfa, Samneh and Welin. General Wood will traverse the Nile depots on a tour of inspection, Thursday.

Mason Bey telegraphs from Massowah that Gallabat has fallen into the hands of the rebels, and that the inhabitants of Gedarif had been ordered to retire on Kassala.

Belgian Burgomasters Combining Against Clericalism.

BRUSSELS, August 9.—Two hundred burgomasters met in conference at the Town Hall today to devise means to prevent the spread of clerical powers, influence and education. An oath was taken by every person present to do all in his power to carry out the object of this meeting.

Mahdi's Men Growing Bolder.

CAIRO, August 7.—The rebels around Suakin are becoming bolder in their attacks upon the outworks. They have erected a battery in a position covering the city. Major Chermside, Governor of Suakin, has telegraphed a request for four mortars with which to dislodge the battery and protect strategic movements.

A Mob in Alexandria.

ALEXANDRIA, August 10.—A mob assembled in front of the British consulate here today to protest against the non-payment of the indemnity exacted by England from Egypt for injuries to English residents of Alexandria during the revolution of Arabi Bey. The consul succeeded in pacifying the crowd by holding out the prospect of a speedy settlement.

Proletaires vs. Peers.

LONDON, August 10.—About 10,000 people were in line at the workingmen's demonstration in Hyde Park today to protest against the rejection of the franchise bill by the House of Lords. The meeting was orderly. Resolutions denouncing the action of the peers were adopted.

Instructions of the French Minister at China.

LONDON, August 10.—The Times states that the French minister was instructed to give China until Sunday forenoon, and if no settlement should then have been agreed upon to seize Amoy and the Pheng Hoo Islands.

Two Policemen Shot by Warsaw Nihilists.

WARSAW, August 9.—While two policemen were attempting to enter a house in this city today for the purpose of arresting Nihilists who were supposed to be sheltered there, they were fired upon from within and both dangerously wounded.

The Greeley Party Not Guilty of Cannibalism

WASHINGTON, August 9.—Admiral Nichols, acting secretary of the navy, pronounces the story of cannibalism by the Greeley party a base fabrication.